



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Chairman Jerome E. Horton

4th District – Los Angeles

Cynthia Bridges
Executive Director
www.boe.ca.gov

**For Immediate Release
December 12, 2012**

**Contact: NR 122-12-H
Jaime Garza
1-916-327-8988**

BOE Teams to Visit More than 7,800 California Retailers Letters to Businesses in Nine Zip Codes Are in the Mail

Sacramento – Retailers in the San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, and along California's coast will soon receive letters from the California State Board of Equalization (BOE) notifying them about upcoming visits from Statewide Compliance and Outreach Program (SCOP) teams. SCOP visits are intended to educate retailers about properly reporting sales and use tax, increase compliance with tax laws, and maintain outreach efforts to assure taxpayers the state's tax system is fair and equal for all Californians.

Letters are on the way to 7,863 business owners in the following zip codes: Brea (92821, 92823), Burlingame (94010), El Monte (91732), Los Angeles (90041), North Hollywood (91606), Palos Verdes Peninsula (90274), Pismo Beach (93449), and Sunnyvale (94085).

Seven different SCOP teams located statewide (Oakland, Sacramento, San Jose, Van Nuys, Norwalk, Irvine and Riverside) conduct door-to-door, in-person visits in the zip code areas they cover. It is important for retailers to know that the BOE asks only business-related questions. Businesses found to be without a permit are given instructions on how to register with the BOE, as well as information about other necessary licenses. Home-based businesses are not visited.

Since 2008, SCOP has visited more than 345,000 businesses statewide to verify that retailers are registered, and to ensure that noncompliant businesses do not have an unfair advantage over registered businesses that are reporting their taxes and/or fees to BOE.

The BOE has found that nearly 98 percent of the businesses operating in California are properly registered with the Board and pay the correct taxes and fees. However, the other two percent that are out of compliance are among those responsible for more than \$2 billion in uncollected taxes contributing to the state's "tax gap" – the difference between the amount of taxes owed and the amount paid, negatively impacting all state taxpayers. This does not include individuals and businesses engaging in illegal activities in the underground economy, costing California at least eight billion dollars in much-needed revenue for programs such as public schools and public safety.

Connect with Us:



If business owners have any questions about these upcoming visits, they may contact their local [BOE SCOP Team](#) or visit the [website](#).

* * * * *

Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the Board of Equalization's Legislative Committee Chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience at the BOE. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$53.7 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

###

Connect with Us:

